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as has its predecessor, a most valuable manual in the hands of all physicians who use the microscope in diagnosis, and almost in equal degree a valued book of reference for the general student with the microscope.

Clinical Diagnosis. A Manual of Laboratory Methods. James Campbell Todd, M.D., Professor of Pathology, Univ. of Colorado. Revised Edition, with 469 pages and illustrations. Philadelphia and London. W. B. Saunders Co. 1912. Cloth \$2.25 net.

THE HOUSE FLY: DISEASE CARRIER

Dr. L. O. Howard, in a volume with the above title, undertakes to bring to public attention, in a readable form, the principal facts underlying the warfare that needs to be waged against the "Filth" or "Typhoid" fly. The author disclaims the purpose of producing a scientific monograph; but the book is really a monograph on the fly as related to human life. The chapter headings are as follows: Zoological Position, Life History and Habits; The Natural Enemies of the Typhoid Fly; the Carriage of Disease by Flies; Remedies and Preventive Measures; Other Flies Frequenting Houses. There are also a number of appendices giving bibliographical lists and extracts of articles by Dr. Howard and others on the flies frequenting human and other excrement, on regulations of the Health Department of the District of Columbia relating to house flies, on directions for building a sanitary privy, on disposal of night soil.

In addition to the general interest in the subject because of its practical importance to dweller in town and country alike, one chapter particularly furnishes matter which should be of special interest to microscopists. This is Chapter II, dealing with the natural enemies of the fly. Those readily lending themselves to study by the general student of the microscope are: Fungous parasites (chiefly three species of *Empusa*) in the soft tissues; Protozoa in the digestive tract; nematodes in the proboscis and in and about the head; mites which attach to the surface of the flies; and a number of parasitic insect enemies.

The figures illustrate a number of species of common flies.

The House Fly: Disease Carrier. L. O. Howard, 312 pages; illustrated. New York 1911. Frederick A. Stokes Co. Price, \$1.95 postpaid.

THE SPIROCHETES

The peculiar interest which has recently attached to Spirochetes grows chiefly out of the brilliant series of scientific investigations,

beginning with the discovery by Schaudinn in 1905, showing that *Treponema (Spirochaeta) pallidum* is definitely responsible for the lesions occurring in syphilis, and leading to its isolation, identification, and control.

In addition to this they have considerable claim to biological interest because of their apparently intermediate position between bacteria and protozoa.

Dr. W. Cecil Bozanquet, of the Royal College of Physicians of London, has recently brought together in a small book of two sections the matter of chief biological interest to the student. In Section 1 are discussed such topics as their biological position, morphology, habitat, cultivation, multiplication and development, association with other organisms, pathogenic qualities, methods of staining and examination. In Section 2 is given a systematic description of the known species, together with illustrations.

In his summary of the phenomena of pathogenicity of the Spirochetes the author classes them in three classes with ascending degrees of virulence: (1) those of slight virulence producing a local affection or lesion only; (2) those in which there is a well marked local lesion, followed by a generalized infection, with relapses not a marked feature; and (3) those of most intense virulence producing immediate generalized septicæmia, accompanied by fever, tendency to relapses, and enlargement of the spleen. In the second group would come those associated with yaws and syphilis; and under the third, those causing the relapsing fevers, fowl-spirillosis, etc.

The author's work was evidently done before the isolation of *Treponema pallida* and recent demonstration of the causal connection between it and syphilis.

Spirochaetes. W. Cecil Bosanquet, M. D., octavo of 152 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London. W. B. Saunders Co., 1911. Artistically bound, \$2.50 net.

PELLAGRA AS AN AMERICAN PROBLEM

Dr. George M. Niles, in a book of 250 pages, undertakes to give a readable account of this apparently modern disease. The effort is a timely one in America, in the light of the great increase in the recorded instances of the malady in the United States.

The following chapter headings will indicate the order and scope of the treatment: General Historic Considerations; Pellagra in the United States; The Etiology of Pellagra; Symptomatology and Clin-